

February 23, 2023

# THE NEXUS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE IDAHO LIBRARY COMMUNITY

## Register Now for the May 18 DAAI Coalition Meeting

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) is working with state and local partners in the creation of a robust and comprehensive five-year statewide Digital Access for All Idahoans (DAAI) Plan, which will serve as a benchmark and roadmap for achieving digital equity in Idaho.

The ICfL will host a virtual statewide coalition meeting at 11 a.m. MT on May 18 to discuss the DAAI plan and provide updates on the planning process. ICfL staff want to hear from you and your community members about digital inclusion and how your communities are affected. These meetings will be held quarterly throughout 2023.

Click [here](#) for the registration page for the May 18 DAAI meeting.

For much more about the DAAI plan, including a link to sign up for a newsletter on the topic, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/digital-access-for-all-idahoans/>.

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<https://libraries.idaho.gov>



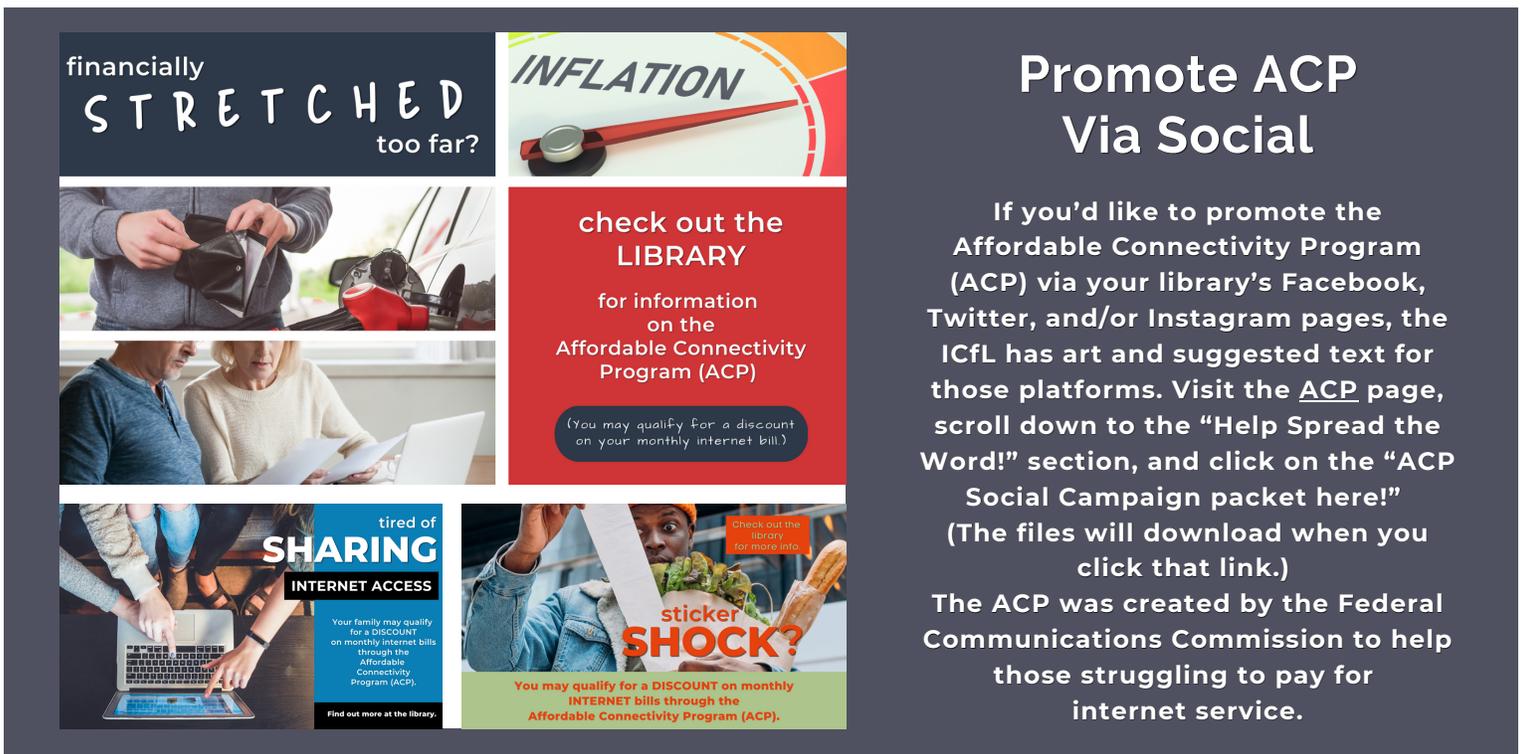
# That All May Read Grant Awarded to 30 Libraries

For the second year, the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) offered the “That All May Read” grant to Idaho public libraries to assist staff in building large-print collections, obtaining assistive technology, and/or providing outreach to people who are unable to read standard print. This grant helps libraries build the capacity to best serve their communities. It also improves equitable access to information and reading materials in alternate formats for Idahoans unable to read standard-print books.

Thirty public libraries throughout Idaho applied for and received the \$1,000 grant. Ten of the grant recipients were new from last year. Staff of many of the libraries plan to utilize the funding to increase their selection of large-print books, which are a benefit for those who struggle to see standard print and also for patrons with reading disabilities. In addition, large-print material can help younger students develop stronger reading skills and become more comfortable with reading.

Grant recipients will also promote the Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS) in their libraries and through outreach opportunities, such as those with local care facilities. TBS is a free audiobook library service for Idahoans who are blind, have low vision, or who are unable to read standard print.

Staff of any Idaho library may request marketing materials to promote TBS. Contact ICfL TBS Program Supervisor LeAnn Gelskey at [leann.gelskey@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:leann.gelskey@libraries.idaho.gov).



## Promote ACP Via Social

If you'd like to promote the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) via your library's Facebook, Twitter, and/or Instagram pages, the ICfL has art and suggested text for those platforms. Visit the [ACP](#) page, scroll down to the "Help Spread the Word!" section, and click on the "ACP Social Campaign packet here!" (The files will download when you click that link.)

The ACP was created by the Federal Communications Commission to help those struggling to pay for internet service.

# Grants

## Summer Intern Grant Closes March 6

The grant application for the ICfL's summer intern grant is due March 6. In an effort to build the capacity of a diverse, skilled workforce in the Idaho library community, the ICfL will provide grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500 to support an intern for the summer of 2023. For more, visit the [summer intern grant page](#).



## Summer STEM Grant Closes March 20

The application for the [summer STEM from your library grant](#) is open through March 20. The grant is open to public, school, academic, and special libraries, including tribal, in Idaho. Library staff are encouraged to apply for the \$500 grant to increase summer learning opportunities in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math.

Grant recipients should plan to create meaningful and engaging youth STEM programs and activities by purchasing STEM-related material, supplies, and kits, and/or bringing in fun and educational presenters. This grant is made possible through a partnership with the Idaho STEM Action Center.

## School Library Access Mini-Grant Closes April 1

The ICfL 2023-2024 [school library access mini-grant](#) is open through April 1. Grant award amounts are up to \$5,000. Most Idaho school libraries have insufficient budgets to provide quality, age-appropriate books for their students to either read at school or take home. Approximately 28% of Idaho's elementary school libraries have an annual book budget of \$100 or less.



# Teen Convening

The ICfL purchased more than 300 board games for 80 public and school libraries around the state. In March, staff from those libraries will attend the ICfL's first-ever teen convening, where they will receive training on how gaming can support social and emotional needs of tweens and teens. When participants return to their libraries, they will immediately be able to put what they learned to use with the help of the games.



## Regional Summer Learning Workshops

The ICfL has been hosting six regional summer learning workshops around the state for staff of public and school libraries. Each workshop is designed to help library staff connect and collaborate with colleagues in their area. Participants will also get updates on the latest research behind summer learning, share information about their library's summer programs, and engage in planning activities to help the summer go smoothly.

## New Resources from NoveList

Through [LiLI.org](https://www.lili.org) and [LiLISchools.org](https://www.lilischools.org), Idahoans have free access to NoveList and NoveList K-8 Plus, an online reader's advisory tool. And, some new features this year include:

- A new chat service for readers to help them find that just-right book in the moment.
- New professional development opportunities for learning the secrets for effectively helping readers.
- Communication tools and best practices for promoting the library – because it's essential to remind readers that their library is the ideal place to jump-start their reading life.

# Why Didn't I Think of That?

The Meridian Library District hosts a monthly swap club for community members to trade stuff, such as tech and clothing.

## Swap Club

**FEB 18**  
2023  
SAT  
**Cherry Lane Large Conference Room at Cherry Lane**  
Saturday, February 18, 2023  
10:00am - 1:00pm



**Program Type:** Attend an Event, Join a Club or Group

**Age Group:** Adults

### Event Details

Meet with your community to find and offer gently used items.

- Limit your items to 2 boxes worth
- Please only bring relevant items to the monthly theme
- We will not accept medicine, bedding, furniture, clothing with significant wear, and non-working electronics
- Swaps don't mean 1-to-1 exchanges, if you're unable to bring anything we still invite you to come and find items you may need!

Jan: Houseware | Feb: Electronics | Mar: Clothing | Apr: Toys/Board Games

Also Occurs On	
01/21/23	02/18/23
03/18/23	04/15/23



Hillview Elementary School (Ammon) Principal Elisa Saffle asked family, friends, and community members to celebrate her birthday by donating books to the students at her school. The "Post Register" did a story about her idea.

## Communications Corner

### 2023 Book-Related Days



#### January

National Braille Literacy Month  
2 National Science Fiction Day  
4 World Braille Day  
18 National Winnie the Pooh Day  
23 National Reading Day

#### February

Low Vision Awareness Month  
National Library Lovers' Month  
1 World Read Aloud Day  
4 Take Your Child to the Library Day  
9 Read in the Bathtub Day  
14 Library Lovers' Day  
23 Digital Learning Day  
26 Tell a Fairy Tale Day



#### March

National Reading Month  
2 NEA's Read Across America Day  
5-11 Read an E-Book Week  
14 National Write Down Your Story Day  
21 World Poetry Day

#### April

School Library Month  
National Poetry Month  
2 International Children's Book Day  
4 National School Librarian Day  
10 National Encourage a Young Writer Day  
12 Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R.)  
16 National Librarian Day  
23 National Talk Like Shakespeare Day  
23-29 National Library Week  
25 National Library Workers' Day  
26 National Library Outreach Day  
27 Take Action for Libraries Day  
27 National Support Teen Literature Day  
27 National Tell a Story Day  
30 El Día de los Niños / El Día de los Libros (Children's Day / Book Day)

Do you need a topic for your next social media post or other marketing idea? Check out the 2023 calendar of book and library-related holidays.